

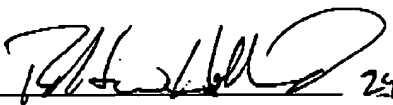
REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-19 and 21 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 12, 19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections, however, in order to bring the application to issuance, Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 19 in a non-substantive manner to clarify the recited subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of pending Claims 1-4, 6-13, 15-19 and 21.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to the USPTO on March 24, 2004.



Attorney for Applicant(s)

24 March 2004

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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